DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES



Food and Drug Administration

DEC -8 2000 July

Sarah A. Lister, DVM, MPH
Director of Congressional Affairs
American Public Health Association
800 I Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001-3710

Dear Dr. Lister:

I want to thank you for your contribution to the November 8, 2000, discussion of the Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) consumer advisory on methylmercury in fish, and for your letter dated November 21, 2000, responding to FDA's questions and summarizing your positions on this important issue.

Be assured that FDA is giving careful consideration to all of the stakeholders' points, including your specific suggestions relating to FDA's advisory and action level for methylmercury in fish.

We will keep you informed of our progress on this issue.

Sincerely yours,

Joseph A. Levitt

Director

Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition